



The Canal Zone Philatelist



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First Quarter, 2000

Whole No. 134

Vice-President's Report

Richard H. Salz
60-27th Avenue,
San Francisco, CA 94121

Time has rolled around again and it is my turn to write this column in order to give our president a much needed break. I will take the easy way out and give you a dull report on the 28th mail sale, about which all the numerous facts have been gathered together and will be reported, in detail, for your information.

Before going into the dull facts, a bit of discussion should be made as to why this past sale was not as financially successful as were most of the others. Not that it was waste of time to run a sale with a small return, for it wasn't. After all these sales are run for more than just making a large net. The two main reasons for the mail sales are (1) members are given an opportunity to divest themselves of unwanted duplicates, and (2) members are given an opportunity to purchase stamps they need to fill holes in their albums; particularly stamps (and covers) that are not readily available from dealers or auction firms who do not bother with items of low catalog price. Approximately 25% of our members send in bids, and 80% of them are successful; so something is being done correctly!

The past two mail sales have been on the small side mainly because not enough material was received, or that not enough "good" material was sent in. As to be expected the

(Continued on page 5)

2000 Mail Sale

Consignments for the 29th CZSG Mail Sale should be sent to arrive no later than June 1, 2000. Certificates are required of Scott First Issue and #15. An inventory must accompany all consignments. Damaged, soiled, or poorly centered copies of lower value stamps as well as ratty covers are respectfully declined and will be returned to vendor. Ship material insured or registered. The sale will close in September. Please send material to Jerry Craig, 16900 Baederwood Lane, Derwood, MD 20855-2013.

Plate Numbers and Printings of J19

by Wallace Cleland

In 1925 the Canal Zone issued three stamps with "CANAL ZONE" overprints on two lines on 1¢, 2¢ and 10¢ U.S. postage due stamps. The font used had the "sharp A" overprint, the same as that used for regular issues starting in May 1925. In fact, the first shipment on May 19 included both these postage due stamps and regular stamps with sharp top A overprints on seven denominations from 3¢ to the \$1. A second shipment of postage due stamps was made on March 22, 1926, again at the same time as the 2¢, 5¢, 17¢ and 20¢ regular stamps with sharp A overprints. A third shipment of the 10¢ postage due accompanied shipments of four regular stamp denominations on September 26, 1927, while a fourth shipment on December 1, 1927 included 2¢ and 10¢ postage dues and nine values of regular stamps. This December shipment included uneven numbers of stamps and appears to have been a house cleaning operation to ship all leftovers from previous printings.

The 2¢ sharp A postage due (J19) thus had shipments in May 1925, March 1926 and December 1927. The first two shipments included 50,000 stamps each, while the third was only 46,600. Previous authors have all assumed that the three shipments corresponded to three separate printings. *Canal Zone Stamps* states that the first and third printings have a "clean-cut" overprint, while the second printing has a "worn overprint with thick letters." Thus when we began to examine plate number copies of J19, we were looking for three separate printings. All 2¢ stamps had a 9 mm spacing between the lines of the overprint, so the spacing could not be used to distinguish the print-

ings, as it can for the 1¢ postage due where the second printing had 11 mm spacing.

The flat plates utilized to print these postage due stamps were used in sets of 4 on the presses of the day. During production, the printed sheets were stacked for drying with tissue paper between the sheets to prevent the freshly printed ink from being transferred to the back of the facing sheet. Either because the tissue paper was too thin or the ink too runny, offsets from the ink of one sheet to the other occurred. These offsets of plate numbers can be read on the back of the selvage of many postage due plate number associated stamps printed during this time period (Fig. 1.).

The accompanying table shows the plate numbers, and if readable, offsets that accompany them from an examination of 76 plate

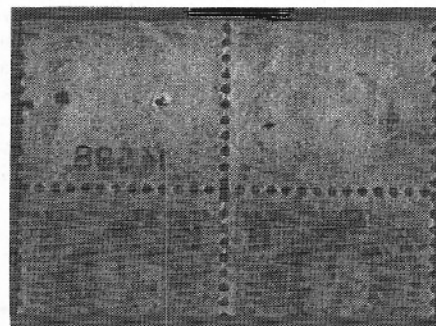


Fig. 1. Offset of plate number 14598 on rear of J19 plate block.

(Continued on page 4)

Coming:

WESTPEX 2000, Cathedral Hill Hotel, San Francisco, CA. CZ exhibit, CZSG meeting on Sat., April 29, 1 p.m.

PHILATELIC SHOW 2000, Holiday Inn, Boxborough, MA. CZSG meeting, Sat., May 6.

World StampExpo, Convention Center, Anaheim, CA. CZSG meeting, Sat., July 8. Consult show programs for details of all meetings.

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The Canal Zone Philatelist

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Display advertising accepted from CZSG members only at the following rates per insertion:

One column, two inches	\$10.00
One column, five inches	20.00
Two columns, five inches	35.00

No larger advertisements are accepted. Remittance must accompany copy. Deadline for ads, first day of Mar., June, Sept., Dec. Copy should be sent to the Editor.

Back issues of the journal, handbooks, and other publications can be ordered from Richard F. Murphy, 501 Rosebud Lane, Greer, SC 29650.

Articles and information for publication should be sent to the Editor. Glossy photographs are desirable for figures of stamps or covers; however, enlarged high quality photocopies are sometimes acceptable. Illustrations must show clearly against black backgrounds. If you need help, write, phone, or FAX the Editor. The author must advise the Editor if the article has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.

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Canal Zone Study Group

Correction:

ABNCo CZ Specimens of Type II OP Article

In the CZP 131 article on ABNCo CZ Archive material of the Portrait series with Type II OP, text was inadvertently transposed.

On page 13 third column, the spacing data under "Second Setting" is applicable to the "Third Setting" and vice versa. The dimensions of both SPECIMEN overprints should also be 20x3.75mm.

On page 14, bottom of center column, the text labeled "Third Setting" should be labeled "Second Setting" and vice versa.

Please make these changes in your CZP 131.

Secretary's Report

John C. Smith

408 Redwood Ln.

Schaumburg, IL 60193

Dues are Due!

We start 2000 with 777 active members, that includes the 97 members who have not paid their dues yet. Hopefully, you have received your 2000 dues notice by now. The dues are STILL \$8.00 for regular membership. If you have not paid your dues please do so, it will save me from sending out reminder notices. You may even want to consider paying a year or two in advance and save yourself time and postage. Contributing members who pay at least \$15 and Sustaining members who pay at least \$25 will be recognized in the Third Quarter *Philatelist*.

Election Committee Report

A report has been submitted through Secretary John C. Smith regarding the complete ballot results for CZSG Officers and Directors.

The successful candidates will serve for the period Jan. 1, 2000 through Dec. 31, 2001.

Results are as follows:

President

James W. Crumpacker 573 votes

Vice President

Richard H. Salz 576 votes

Secretary

John C. Smith 574 votes

Treasurer

Richard F. Larkin 573 votes

Directors

Paul F. Ammons 534 votes

Richard D. Bates, Jr. * 547 votes

Gary B. Weiss * 559 votes

Alan P. Bentz * 538 votes

* denotes winners

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Crumpacker, President

Did You Know?

Age distribution in the CZSG is as follows: age 41 to 50 (29.3%), age 61 to 70 (25.1%), age 51 to 60 (22.7%), age 31 to 40 (7.4%), age 21 to 30 (1.8%) and age 20 and under (.4%). The gender of the CZSG is 5.4% female and 94.6% male.

CZSG Works in Progress:

Various study group members and committees are undertaking the following projects. If members have any new findings to contribute in these areas, please contact the Editor.

- **"Project 2000"**, a partial update, covering Scott 31-69 only, of the "CZ Check List" from *Canal Zone Stamps*. It would include only postally issued items so as not to overlap the Specimen Series studies that appear in the *Canal Zone Philatelist*. There are many printings and varieties about which we knew nothing before information became available from the Christie's auction in 1990 of the Canal Zone Specimen materials. Also included will be those varieties discovered since the 1986 publication.
- A monograph tentatively entitled *Identification of Canal Zone Stamps and Detection of Fakes*. It is expected to begin publishing sections of this work in CZP in the coming year. This text will provide information useful to both beginners and advanced collectors.

WESTPEX Update

There will be a combined CZSG/COPAPHIL dinner on Friday, April 28; members and guests should meet at the joint CZSG/COPAPHIL society booth at show closing at 6 p.m. The restaurant will be within walking distance of the Cathedral Hill Hotel.

Auctions

by Jim Crumpacker

The best of the Canal Zone stamp offerings for the fourth quarter, Oct. 1, 1999 through Dec. 31, 1999 turned out to be in Mail Bid sales and not at public auction, where better items were few, indeed.

Some lots of interest are presented below. The selling price, to include commission, is shown first. Next comes the catalogue value, in parenthesis, from the 1999 Scott's Specialized.

- 2, F+ on VF cover Ancon 7/5/04 to Panama \$220 (\$240) Suburban
- 3, used, F \$176 (\$225) Suburban
- 25a, horiz. pair, imperf. between and at left margin, OG, H, barely F \$1210 (\$2000) Shreve's
- 33a, double overprint, OG, H, barely F \$184 (\$375) Ivy & Mader
- 39e, inverted center and overprint reading down, OG, H, barely F \$242 (\$700) Ivy & Mader
- 39e, inverted center and overprint reading down, OG, H, almost VF \$495 (\$700) Shreve's
- 53, OG, H, F+ \$55 (\$115) Suburban
- 55e, booklet pane of 6, OG, NH, tiny dimple margin of one stamp o/w VF \$2420 (\$1500) Bennett
- 56g, booklet pane of 6, two complete panes in unexploded booklet, cover style D, OG, NH, VG-F \$1840 (\$1700) Harmer
- 08, used, CTO as always, H, barely F \$165 (\$650) Suburban
- CO14a, inverted overprint, used, CTO as always, OG, H, almost VF \$2750 (\$2500) Rumsey
- Zeppelin flight, F-VF cover sent from Cristobal 5/22/30 to NYC, then Lakehurst to Friedrichshafen w/CZ 95, Cl pr., C5 and US C14, F-VF, Sieger 64-III \$1595 (\$n/a) Bennett

Here are the addresses of the auction firms mentioned above. Please refer to CZP as your source of information when requesting a catalogue from any.

Matthew Bennett, Inc.
601 Washington Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21204

H.R. Harmer, Inc.
3 East 28th St.
New York, NY 10016

Ivy and Mader Philatelic Auctions
775 Passaic Ave.
West Caldwell, NJ 07006

S.J. Rumsey Philatelic Auctions
11 Tillman Place, Third Floor
San Francisco, CA 94108

Shreves Philatelic Galleries, Inc.
14131 Midway Rd., Suite 1250
Dallas, TX 75001-9829

Suburban Stamp, Inc.
176 Worthington St.
Springfield, MA 01101

Disaster Commemorative Covers

by John C. Smith

Two 10th Anniversary disaster covers post marked in the Canal Zone are revisited. Cover one (Fig. 1) was post marked 4/4/34 on the USS *Teal*, the words "Coco Solo, Canal Zone" can be seen between the killer bars. The cachet reads "First Anniversary-U.S.S. Akron & Blimp J-3 ill-fated Crews and R-Adm. Moffett." The dirigible U.S. Naval Airship *Akron*'s last Zone flight was over Limon Bay, Colon and Cristobal on 3/15/33. This disaster occurred on its 59th flight, in a storm off the east coast of New Jersey. Seventy-six people were lost with only three survivors. The green, purple and black cachet was designed by E.J. Wilson, of Chicago, IL. He is also noted for his cachet celebrating the 30th anniversary of the opening of the Panama Canal with ship cancels dated 2/26/34. More on Wilson cachets can be found in CZP 86:3.

The second cover (Fig. 2) was probably transmitted to the Coco Solo Postmaster undercover from the U.S., as noted by the Coco Solo post office hand stamp device dated 9/25/35 not cancelling stamp. Most likely the same individual applied the cachet, using a rubber hand stamp and black ink. The cachet reads "In Memory - 10th Anniversary - Sinking USS S-51 Sep 25 -

1925 in Collision with - Steamer City of Rome - 33 lives lost." This disaster happened when the American submarine S-51 was rammed by the liner *City of Rome* off of Montauk, New York and sank with 37 crewmen aboard. The submarine was cruising on the surface when it was rammed. Nine men who were in the vicinity of the conning tower escaped, with only three of them surviving. No information on the S-51 visiting the Canal Zone could be found. Note the incorrect usage of U.S. postage stamp #773, causing the three cent postage due at the destination. Only Canal Zone postage stamps were legal for out going mail. There is at least one other cover known by this writer, it celebrated Easter, earlier in the same year. It displayed the same Canal Zone post mark and postage due.

Would appreciate hearing from any one with similar covers. Contact John Smith, 408 Redwood, Schaumburg, IL 60193.

Credits:

- 1 - USS *Akron*, Julius Grigore
- 2 - *Ship Wrecks - An Encyclopedia of the World's Worst Disasters at Sea* by David Ritchie, 1996.



Fig. 1. Disaster cover commemorating the U.S. Naval Airship *Akron* last flight.

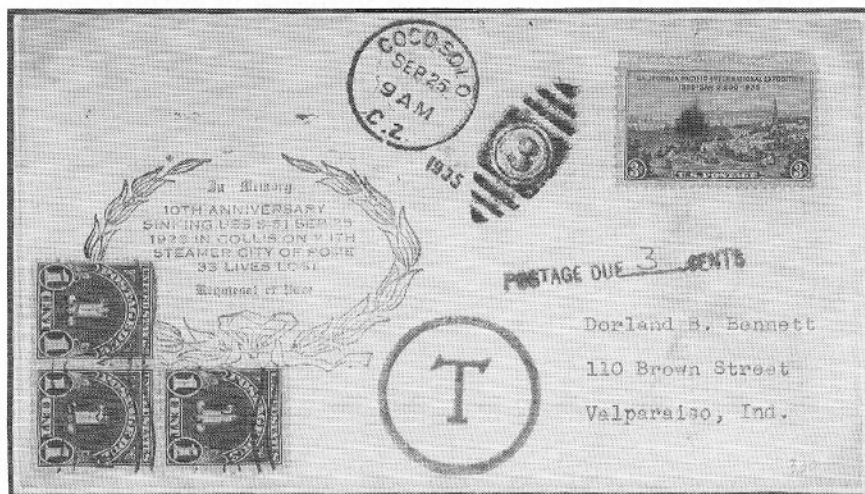


Fig. 2. Disaster cover commemorating the submarine *S-51* sinking.

Printings of J19

(Continued from page 1)

number pieces of J19 that have been examined (or from Xeroxes). They fall into two groups. Plates 14026, 7, 9 and 14596 were clearly used for the first printing. These four plates were at press together from March 31 to April 4, 1925 and from May 13 to 19 of the same year, following which the 14000 series plates were cancelled. All of the overprints from this first printing are sharp and clean (Fig. 2.). These plates are reported for all positions except TR with F, so it appears that upper right panes were not used. 400 upper left and lower right panes would have to have been used, but we have no way of knowing if lower left panes were used. It is also not clear why 14029 is so elusive with only one copy known.



Fig. 2. Left Plate block of 14596 from first printing, note sharp and clean letters.

One example of 14596 caused confusion for awhile, as we originally misread the offset on the rear as 14028. These two plates were at press together only from July 11 to 14 in 1927 and thus this item appeared to come from the third shipment. It had a clean overprint. How-

ever, George Brett pointed out that the offset really was 14026, and thus this plate block came from the first printing. The story has appeared in two articles in the *U.S. Specialist* (June and October issues, 1998).

The second group of J19 plates was 14596 - 9, and except for a lone example of the left position, all appear to come from upper right panes, since all top positions are with F. This group of plates was at press five times prior to the second shipment in March 1926, and twice thereafter. These plates thus represent a second printing, and these plate number pieces are three times more common than those of the first printing. The only confusion about printings involves plate 14596, which was used for both. However, the offset, if present, distinguishes the two printings, aside from any consideration of the overprint.



Fig. 3. Plate block from second printing, top position, letters thicker and smudged.

The thickness of the overprint on the second printing varies with the position. The top position shows the thick letters that have characterized the second printing (Fig. 3.). The right position pieces, however, show a different pattern. The left vertical row of plate blocks has fairly thick letters, but not as thick as the top position. The right vertical row, however, in-

cluding the plate number copy, is more lightly printed and resembles the overprint of the first printing (Fig. 4.). This has led to confusion, with some people identifying such plate number pieces as from the first printing. The difference in thickness of the letters is constant; however, and is seen in all of the 27 items in the table. The reason for the thicker letters on the second printing is probably from a difference in pressure during the overprinting. This pressure was apparently not as great near the edge of the overprinting plate, so that the right hand vertical row of stamps received a lighter impression of the overprint.



Fig. 4. Right Plate block from second printing; note sharp impression right column, left column letters more smudged.

Since all of the plate number pieces examined fall into the two-groups in the table, and the offsets on the rear match those given in all cases (where they occur), we conclude that there were only two printings of J19. The third shipment in December 1927 thus had to include leftovers from the previous two printings. We have no way to tell how many were left from each, but the fact that the third shipment was reported to have a thin, rather than thick overprint, suggests that at least some stamps from the first printing were included.

The fact that the offsets, when present, always match the patterns shown in the table indicate that once the plates were loaded on the press their order was never changed. Thus the printing order was always the same, as was the order of the printed sheets drying in the stack. Further, the plates were loaded on the press in numerical or reverse numerical order, as the offsets are always displaced by one plate number. The two printings, in fact, appear to have had the plates loaded differently, as the offsets from the first printing are of the next higher plate number, while those of the second printing are of the next lower plate number.

I would like to thank David Leeds, Gary Weiss and Bill Schuman for their help in this survey.

**Commentary on J19 Printings
by G. Weiss, on next page.**

Canal Zone J19 - inventory of holdings of seven people

First Printing

Plate	Offset plate	Top	Bottom	Left	Right
14026	14027	1	1	2	3
14027	14029	1	1	1	
14029	14596			1	
14596	14026	2		2	4

Second Printing

Plate #	Offset plate	Top R	Bottom	Left	Right
14596	14599	9			7
14597	14596	7		1	7
14598	14597	5			7
14599	14598	9			6

All four positions exist on the first printing, but most panes from the second printing were upper right ones. While all top panes of the second printing are with F, none of the first printing ones have an F. The second printing is three times as common as the first (57 vs. 19), but why is plate 14029 so elusive?

Commentary on Plate Numbers and "Printings" of J19

By Gary B. Weiss

Wallace Cleland makes an important contribution to Canal Zone philately with his study of J19 plate number pieces. It is surprising how much we don't yet know and how useful even a small survey of a few holdings can be. The table is very interesting and allows me to stop searching as hard for possibly nonexistent material. There are a few areas in the article that need to be expanded or corrected. Other interpretations of the data are possible. I still believe there were three (over)printings of the basic US stamp for use in the Zone.

First, a distinction must be made between the printings of the U.S. Scott J62 postage due sheets and the overprinting of these sheets for use in the Canal Zone as J19. I am unaware of any evidence to suggest that this was done as a single process. As it seems unlikely that sheets from different U.S. printings were overprinted at the same time, the existence of two groupings of plate numbers of J62 printed at different times is strong evidence for at least two printings of Canal Zone J19.

I believe that the first overprinting was done in full sheets of 400 stamps, as there are various plate varieties found only in certain panes. The most famous is the ZONE ZONE error, J19a, which is from the lower right pane. The wrong fonts appear in the upper left pane. One of these varieties, CZSG J19.1, is in position 51 and appears in plate blocks. I know that in the census from my collection, I distinguished those blocks with the variety (UL) from those without the variety (LL). I presume that these are from the first printing of J19 and not from a corrected third printing. The illustrated guideline single proves that some LL panes were overprinted. The presence of these varieties makes this one of the very few plate blocks (Flat plate) for which upper and lower left positions can be distinguished.



Lower Left pane guideline single.

The sheet of 400 stamps contained eight plate blocks. The sheet was divided into four panes of 100 (UL, UR, LL, and LR) each containing two plate blocks of six. Generally, there are only five collectible positions. The left side, right side and bottom plate blocks each come from two panes and the two blocks for these positions are indistinguishable. The top left and top right plate blocks are distinguishable

by the presence of the letter F (finisher) on the right.

With three of the panes confirmed (UL, LL, LR), the fourth pane probably also exists and the membership should search their holdings for a "first printing" plate number piece with F number. The rarity of all plate number pieces from the first printing may explain the absence of top right plate blocks in a small survey.

Next, the right side plate blocks from the "second" printing of J19 were initially hard to categorize and if broken into singles, the right hand stamps can easily be confused with stamps from the first printing. No survey of large holdings has been done to compare the number of clean and worn overprints. With the finding that some stamps from the second printing appear clean, it seems necessary to examine large multiples (sheets if there are any still out there) to see what other positions, if any, are ambiguous. Until this is done, it may be possible to identify first printings only by date of usage, plate numbers or presence of an error and second printings only by certain plate numbers.

With these comments noted, there are several other possible interpretations of the findings in this limited survey. The most obvious is that there were three printings of J19 and that the second and third both have worn letters. It does seem odd that the third printing would have the letters cleaned up (as suggested in *Canal Zone Stamps*). If the second and third printings of the overprint cannot be distinguished, this would explain why there were so many more items from the "second printing"; it was the second and third printing of the overprint. Obviously, there could have been two printings of the Canal Zone overprint on a single printing of the U.S. stamp, J62. Varieties (if any) on other sharp A overprints from this period might also allow identification of a distinct third printing.

Another possible explanation for finding more of the worn printings than the clean printings, may relate to the rules against selling unused postage dues to collectors. Although these rules have been broken since 1914, they were sold legally, only after receipt of the definitive dues (J25-28) in 1932, at which time the blue dues was sold as remainders. If any stocks of older stamps were sold, it seems more likely that they were from later printings.

At the other extreme, perhaps none of the overprint "printings" can be distinguished by the character of the letters (except the obvious wrong fonts and Zone Zone). All of the variations in printing may be related to the position and pressure of the plates.

Finally, with all the questions this small survey raised, it would be very interesting for the committee on U.S. overprints to survey/census holdings on all/most of the flat plate postage due issues and perhaps of all overprinted CZ stamps. I have always assumed that all plate numbers/positions were present in approximately equal numbers. The rarity of plate number 14029 suggests that the sheets selected for overprinting was not done in equal numbers or randomly. There may be many other rare plate number blocks out there.

Vice-President's Report

(Continued from page 1)

"good" material sold well and the "not so good" items either sold at a small fraction of catalog or estimate, or they were "no bids" — which was the case in the 28th sale with 177 "no bids" out of 831 lots. That was a ghastly number but is explainable as the "no bids" were on material that was either too common or not up to snuff. We try and return that type of material to the vendors, but when not much material is received then it seems that we are not as picky as we should be.

Now to the details of the 28th mail sale: The figures which follow are in the order as set up in the Mail Sale Statistics on page 30 of the third quarter CZP. Total Lots in Sale 831; Total Lots Sold 651; % of Lots Sold 78; Cat/Est \$78,228; Gross Sales \$46,693; % of Cat/Est 60%; Sales Expense \$3,044; Net Proceeds \$1,625. There are 35 vendors; 180 bidders; Successful Bidders 148; % of Successful 82.2 (which incidentally is the highest percentage of successful bidders for all 28 mail sales.)

There were 3 lots returned: Lot 102 for \$25.00; Lot 229 for \$11.00; AND Lot 215 for \$600 — that one was a low blow as the net suffered by \$60. It was a block of 6 of Scott No. C20 with plate number which had a thin spot right in the middle of the plate number. The describer is awaiting punishment of ten lashes with a wet noodle.

There were 24 letters accompanying the checks in payment for the lots purchased which praised the volunteers, the material, and the speed with which the lots were placed in the U.S. mail.

Next sale will be run by Jerry Craig; so it is not too soon to start rounding up your nicer duplicates for inclusion in the 29th mail sale. It is hard to believe that shortly there will be 29 consecutive mail sales. This must be some sort of a record for a club function. And again, the committee thanks all members for your participation in the mail sale.

Winners:

Irwin J. Gibbs has gathered together a remarkable number of "wins" at various shows across the country: The Reserve Grand at the invitational single-frame exhibition in December 1999 of the Collectors Club of New York, for "Canal Zone Registration Envelopes." At the APS AmeriStamp Expo 2000, February 18-20, 2000 in Portland, OR, two Platinum awards for two 1-frame exhibits: "Canal Zone Registration Envelopes" and "1923 Canal Zone Coat of Arms Issue."

Paul F. Ammons was the winner of a Gold award at STAMPSHOW 99 in Cleveland, OH, August 26-29, 1999 and at ARIPEX 2000 in Phoenix, AZ, February 11-13, 2000, for his exhibit: "Canal Zone Second Airmails."

Congratulations for jobs well done!

**Do you have unusual
Canal Zone?
Write the Editor!**

Canal Zone ABNCo Sample Specimen Booklets

by Richard F. Larkin, David J. Leeds, Harry Hagendorf, and Gary B. Weiss

A previous article (CZP 132:21, 26-29) discussed the full sheet Canal Zone American Bank Note Company (ABNCo) specimen booklet pane sheets which came into philatelic hands at the time of Christie's September 12, 1990 Sale. In this Sale, Lots 21, 22, and 31 contained 12 complete specimen booklet samples.

Christie's Lots 21 and 22 descriptions do not correspond with their illustrations. The F# requires that the booklet be CZSG 39cSS rather than 53cSS as shown in their catalog.

Two additional sample booklets were described in the Christie's catalog, inspected by at least two viewers, but not received by the successful bidders. Lot No. 52, the 1¢ and 2¢ Coat of Arms design, (CZSG 68a-69a) included "four mock-up booklets, two of each value, including one booklet pane and blank pages". Should these surface, they should be reported to the Editor or the authors.

In addition to the above 12 sample booklets and the lost Coat of Arms booklets, several additional booklets were sold in a later Christie's June 1991 Sale. The covers of these booklets are distinguished by archival markings, however the panes are indistinguishable from panes as issued.

Most of the booklets were purchased by Mr. Harry Hagendorf of the Columbian Stamp Company, Inc. and have been illustrated in his Sale Bulletins. They were originally offered for

sale for between \$700 to \$1850; depending on number of panes and condition.

Since we have not been able to make detailed inspections of most of the items the descriptions are not as complete as would be desirable. The sample specimen booklets have a variety of marking distinguishing them being from the ABNCo Archives. The booklet cover markings include: "security" hole punch, SPECIMEN overprint and the F#. The enclosed panes are marked in four formats: security punched, SPECIMEN overprint, either/both, and as issued.

The sample booklets can be correlated with the complete Specimen sheets (CZP 132:26) as described in the table of the earlier article. We have erred on the conservative side by only showing those characteristics that could be visually confirmed, however it would be quite reasonable to extrapolate data from the complete sheets to the individual booklets.

No full sheets exist of the #38 booklet pane, however two complete booklets are reported. Since the corresponding F#s, F4853, of both the 1¢ and 2¢ and the booklets exist, at some time, the sheets must have existed but were not part of the archives. It is hoped that the several owners of this material will help refine the Table by providing additions and corrections. Please contact the Editor or the authors.



Fig. 1. CZSG 38bSS and 39cSS booklet pane archival security punch markings.

ABNCo Specimen Booklet Material in Christie's 1990/91 Sales

CZSG No.	Scott No.	Denomination	# of panes	F #	# of booklets
38bSS	38b	1¢	4	F4853	2
39cSSA	39c	2¢	2	F4853	2
39cSSB	39c	2¢	4	F4853	2
39cSS	39c	2¢	(2)	F5378	2
52bSS	52b	1¢	4	F5449	2
53cSS	53c	2¢	2	F6408	2
55eSS	55e	1¢	4	F6569	2
56gSSA	56g	2¢	2	F6569	2
56gSSB	56g	2¢	4	F6569	1

Note: Booklets are Cover Type D (*Canal Zone Stamps*, page 274). All booklets are presumed archival marked. Cover with one or more: a security punch, red F-Number, and blue SPECIMEN overprint. Panes are security punched and/or have SPECIMEN overprint or have no marking as issued.

References:

Christie's, *The American Bank Note Company Archives, U.S. Possessions, Latin American and Worldwide*, New York, September 12, 1990

Columbian Stamp Company, *Net Price Sale Fall 1990, 1990*

Columbian Stamp Company, [*Columbian Stamp Expo sale bulletin*], 1992.

Larkin, R.F., J.Crumpacker, D.J.Leeds, & G.B.Weiss, "The Canal Zone Specimen Booklet Panes", *The Canal Zone Philatelist*, Vol.35, No. 3, 1999, pp. 21, 26-29.

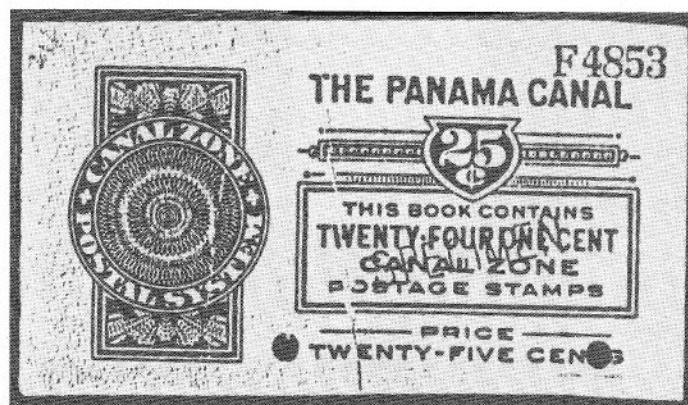


Fig. 2. CZSG 39cSSA 1c Archive 25¢ sample Booklet with red F4853 and blue SPECIMEN overprint.

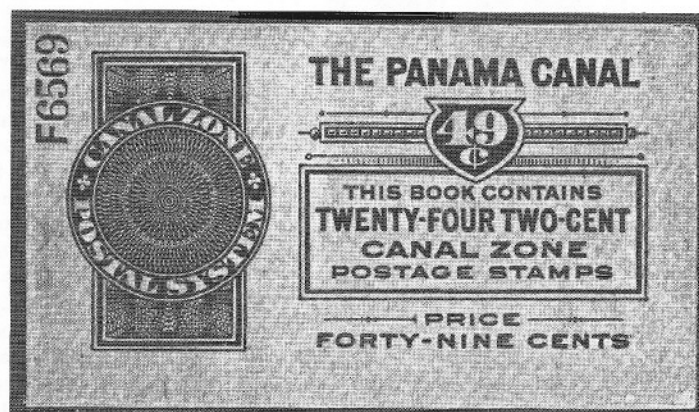


Fig. 3. CZSG 56gSS 2c Archive 49¢ sample Booklet with red F6569. Panes in this booklet are not archival marked.

Back to Canal Zone Basics Gutter Snipes on Canal Zone Stamps - Part 2

by R.D. Bates, Jr.

Recently I described what is meant by a gutter snipe, summarized how they can arise on Canal Zone stamps, and listed the examples known to me at the time, with several illustrations. (CZP 128:26) A feature of the article was a description of how gutter snipes can arise on stamps printed on three different presses: rotary press issues, Giori press stamps, and on a limited number of examples printed on a flat press.

The end of the article provided the following encouragement: collectors are invited to submit examples of other gutter snipes to the writer or to the Editor. Because this brought several responses, this report will update the known examples of gutter snipes on Canal Zone

stamps. Collectors can be on the lookout for them, as they do occasionally occur in dealer stocks, including one such "discovery" since the first article appeared last year. Moreover, the potential clearly is present that multiple examples can exist, as many as ten per pane when the gutter snipe is at the top or bottom of a regular issue sized stamp, or five if along the long side of a commemorative sized stamp. If the gutter snipe extends to the adjacent pane, then twice as many should, in principle, be possible.

The author thanks Jim Crumpacker, Louis Repeta, and Dick Salz for providing material illustrated in the articles on gutter snipes.

Known Gutter Snipes on Canal Zone Stamps

Press	Scott #	Illustration	Position of Gutter
Rotary	100	Fig. 1	top above stamps in pair
Rotary	104	Fig. 3	bottom below stamp (on Carter first flight cover)
rotary	115	CZP 128:26 (Fig. 2)	top above stamps in pair
rotary	115	Fig. 4	bottom below stamp
rotary	116	CZP 128:26 (Fig. 1)	to left of stamp
rotary	116	Fig. 2	top above stamps in pair
Giori	157	CZP 128:26 (Fig. 3)	top above stamp
Giori	165	CZP 128:26 (Fig. 4)	to right on stamps in vertical pair
Flat	C29	CZP 128:26 (Fig. 5)	bottom below stamp
Giori	C43	Fig. 5	to right of stamp - used



Fig. 1. Scott No. 100 gutter snipe



Fig. 2. Scott No. 116 gutter snipe



Fig. 3. Scott No. 104 gutter snipe



Fig. 4. Scott No. 115 gutter snipe



Fig. 5. Scott No. C43 gutter snipe

CZSG Mail Sale Statistics Additions

In the 3rd quarter CZP on page 30 there were numerous figures but the most important were omitted either by mistake, overlook, or lousy proofing; so here is the column which missed the boat:

Net to CZSG

Sale No.	Sale No.	Sale No.	Sale No.	Sale No.	Sale No.	Sale No.	Sale No.	Sale No.	Sale No.
1-\$897	4-\$1,725	7-\$1,901	10-\$4,153	13-\$4,218	16-\$4,778	19-\$3,482	22-\$2,373	25-\$1,382	
2-902	5-1,840	8-1,906	11-2,751	14-4,217	17-2,587	20-3,533	23-5,137	26-3,466	
3-1,067	6-2,306	9-2,585	12-2,271	15-4,710	18-3,703	21-4,123	24-4,334	27-1,542	

Total \$77,385

Average \$2,885

The above figures can be added to the "Statistics" on page 30 of the 3rd Quarter CZP. The total of \$77,385 is a good chunk of money, but when you consider that it has taken 27 years of volunteered time one might conclude that the mail sale committees are slightly mad. Please read the VP column and pick up the figures for the 28th mail sale!

R.H. Salz

Canal Zone Domestic and Local Postal Rates and Fees

by Tom Brougham†

Business Reply Mail Fee

A charge in addition to the amount of first class postage was charged Business Reply. Both the postage and this fee were usually indicated by postage due stamps affixed to the top item. Thus individual covers may have indication of the amount due for that one cover but may bear postage dues in a greater amount. Some such reply envelopes were entitled to the drop letter rate.

2¢	-----	07/01/28
1¢	-----	10/01/28
2¢	-----	07/01/57
5¢	-----	07/14/75
3.5¢ with deposit, 12¢ without deposit	---	09/12/76

Domestic and Local Non-First Class Rates

Non-first class rates of the Canal Zone are difficult to document and frequently even more difficult to find. Beecher and Wawrukiewicz (ref. CZP 131) sheds some light on the subject. However, this author has had some difficulty reconciling the definitions of various U.S. rates in that book to CZ rate documents from the 1920s and 1930s. Additionally, the rates observed on some CZ covers call into question the applicability of some of these possible rates from and to the Zone. CZ rates may simply have been different. Misunderstanding of unusual rates by postal clerks or patrons may account for some of the difficulty, too.

Any additions, corrections or comments would be most welcome.

Second Class

In the U.S., publishers paid complex and often fractional rates through post office accounts and no stamps were attached to individual wrappers. While such CZ covers are rare, possibly because they do not bear stamps, they are occasionally seen. The 1915 and 1922 Canal Zone Postal Guides provide only for the non-publisher, "transient" second class rate (see below). But the 1929 Postal Guide does set out rates for publishers as follows:

Newspapers and magazines:

- 1¢ per pound to CZ or Panama
- 5¢ per pound to U.S. and Possessions, Canada, Cuba and Mexico

Fraternal or scientific publication:

- 2¢ per pound to all Domestic and Local

Transient Second Class

In the U.S. this rate was for samples of publications or forwarding redirected second class mail only. The rates given here are the Transient second class U.S. rates listed in Beecher and Wawrukiewicz. The first three rates are confirmed by the Canal Zone Post Office sources and by wrappers.

1¢ for each 4 oz - possibly as early as 06/24/04	
2¢ for each 2 oz	----- 04/15/25
1¢ for each 2 oz	----- 07/01/28
2¢ per 1st 2 oz, 1¢ add'l 2 oz	----- 04/01/52
2¢ per 1st 2 oz, 1¢ add'l oz	----- 08/01/58
4¢ per 1st 2 oz, 1¢ add'l oz	----- 01/07/63
5¢ per 1st 2 oz, 1¢ add'l oz	----- 01/07/68
6¢ per 1st 2 oz, 1¢ add'l oz	----- 05/16/71
6¢ per 1st 2 oz, 2¢ add'l oz	----- 07/06/72
8¢ per 1st 2 oz, 2¢ add'l oz	----- 03/02/74
8¢ per 1st 2 oz, 4¢ add'l oz	----- 09/14/75
10¢ per 1st 2 oz, 4¢ add'l oz	----- 07/18/76

Non-first-class CZ wrappers encountered by collectors are more likely to be third class rather than second class.

† Continuing series, see CZP 131, 132 and 133.

Additional illustrations provided by David Leeds.

Third class

"Unsealed mail, matter of the third class"

1¢ per 2 oz	-----	06/24/04
1.5¢ per 2 oz, up to 8 oz	-----	04/15/25
1¢ per 2 oz (from May 1, 1929 CZ Postal Guide but not in Beecher et al; see following paragraphs for definition and commentary.)		
2¢ per 1st 2 oz, 1¢ add'l oz	-----	01/01/49
3¢ per 1st 2 oz, 5¢ add'l oz	-----	08/01/58
4¢ per 1st 2 oz, 2¢ add'l oz	-----	01/07/63
6¢ per 1st 2 oz, 2¢ add'l oz	-----	01/07/68
8¢ per 1st 2 oz, 2¢ add'l oz	-----	05/16/71
8¢ per 1st 2 oz, 4¢ add'l oz	-----	07/06/72
10¢ per 1st 2 oz, 8¢ add'l oz	-----	03/02/74
13¢ per 1st 2 oz, 12¢ add'l oz	-----	12/31/75
14¢ per 2 oz	-----	07/18/76
20¢ per 2 oz	-----	05/29/78

An undated amendment to the 1929 CZ Postal Guide redefines third-class matter as embracing newspapers, magazines and periodicals, circular, books, catalogs, photographs and photographic albums, blueprints, and all printed matter in general when reproduced by means of the printing press, mimeograph, multigraph, or any other mechanical process.

New CZ fractional denominations were issued September 1, 1939. Thus it appears that CZ third-class rates were changed back to conform to the U.S. rates near that date.

For "books, catalogues, seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, scions and plants"

1¢ per 2 oz, up to 8 oz	-----	04/15/25
1.5¢ per 2 oz	-----	01/01/49
2¢ per 2 oz, 1.5¢ add'l oz	-----	01/01/52

Fourth class or parcel post

Some of these Canal Zone rates, taken from CZ Postal Guides, are remarkably different than the U.S. rates.

1¢ per oz — by 07/xx/15	
books, seeds, plants, etc.: 1¢ per 2 oz — under 8 oz	01/02/18
(these items became third class on 4/15/25)	
other parcels under 4 oz, 1¢ per oz	----- 04/15/25
higher weight: 5¢ per pound local and 12¢ per pound domestic.	
local over 8 oz	----- 5¢ per pound
domestic over 8 oz	----- 12¢ per pound
plus additional 2¢ handling charge prepaid by stamps on parcels in excess of 8 oz	----- 05/01/29
1¢ per oz up to 8 oz (amended later to 7 oz)	
local over 8 oz (amended to 7 oz)	----- 7¢ 1st lb., 5¢ add'l lb.
domestic over 8 oz	----- 13¢ 1st lb., 12¢ add'l lb.

COD on Parcel Post

COD parcel post - 07/01/14; payment forwarded by money order.

COD parcel post service, began 05/05/19 - 10, 15, & 25¢ fees include insurance.

COD fees 12, 15, 25¢ - 04/15/25

Insurance

Insured parcel post service was established on January 2, 1918. Prior to that, in-coming parcels from the U.S. could be insured.

In the chart below, the first amount given is for the minimum amount of insurance. In parentheses is given other fee levels possible for greater coverage.

5¢ (10, 15, 25)	-----	01/02/18
3¢ (5, 10, 25)	-----	by 1922
5¢ (8, 10, 25)	-----	04/15/25
5¢ (8, 10, 25, 30, 35)	-----	02/01/30
5¢ (10, 15, 25, 30, 35)	-----	07/01/32
10¢ (20, 30, 50, 60, 70)	-----	03/26/44
3¢ (10, 15, 25)	-----	11/01/44
5¢ (10, 15, 20, 25, 30)	-----	01/01/49
5¢ (10, 15, 20, 30, 35)	-----	01/01/52
10¢ (15, 20, 30, 35)	-----	01/02/57
10¢ (20, 30, 40)	-----	07/01/57
20¢ (30, 40, 50, 60)	-----	03/26/66
25¢ (40, 50, 65, 80)	-----	04/18/76
40¢ (60, 80, 1.00, 1.20)	-----	07/18/76
50¢ (85, 1.10, 1.40, 1.75, 2.25, 2.75)	-----	05/29/78

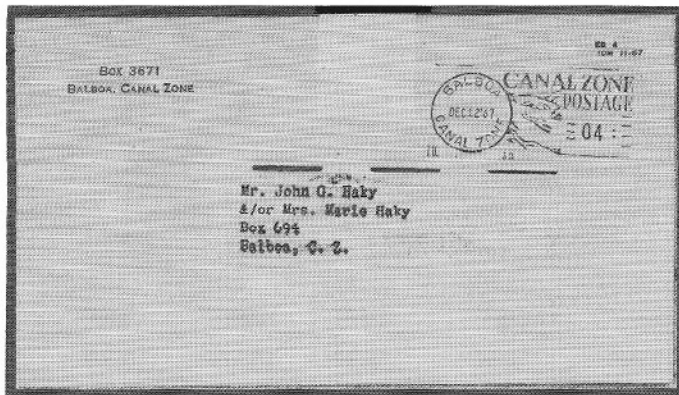


Fig. 1. 4¢ drop letter rate. Balboa meter December 12, 1967.

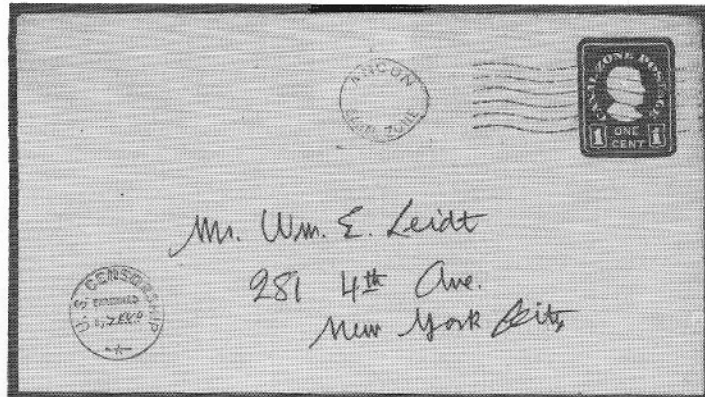


Fig. 2. Third class unsealed, circa 1939-40. This apparent rate, 1¢ per 2 ounces, is not listed in Beecher but is in 1929 CZ postal guide.

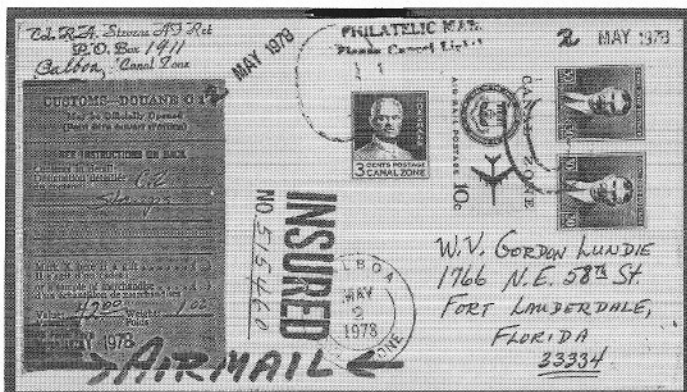


Fig. 3. Insurance fee 60¢ for up to \$50.00 indemnity. 13¢ airmail. May 2, 1978.

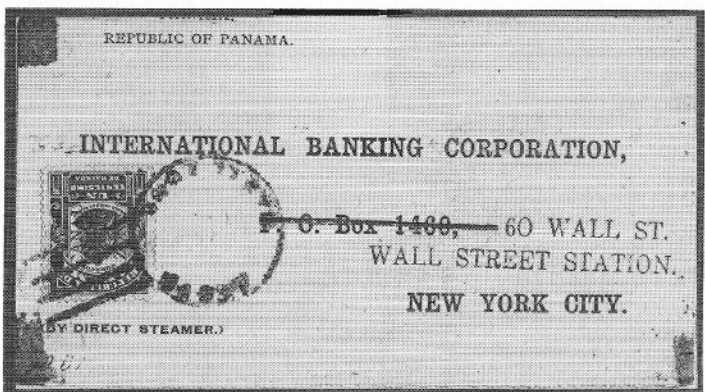


Fig. 4. Wrapper. "Unsealed matter of the third class." 1¢ per 2 ounces. Circa 1907-09.

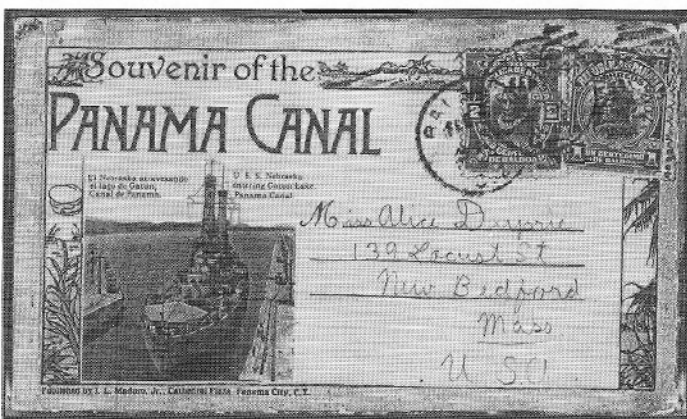


Fig. 5. Three times the 1¢ per 2 ounces third class rate. Item weighs a little over 4 ounces. February 192_.



Fig. 6. Parcel post wrapper with 4¢ postage and "Parcel Post" postmark. Was the rate still 1¢ per ounce in 1943?



Fig. 7. Parcel post and insured wrapper. Year date illegible or omitted but judging from the 15¢ for parcel post (zone 8 up to a pound?) and the 5¢ of insurance obligingly written in the boxed "INSURED" postmark, probably between 1932 and 1944. Parcel post wrappers are scarce as are insurance markings this early.



Fig. 8. Postage Due Mail notice from December of 1945: "Three pieces 3rd class returned due 1 1/2¢ each" With 4 1/2¢ CZ postage attached.

A Letter and Photo

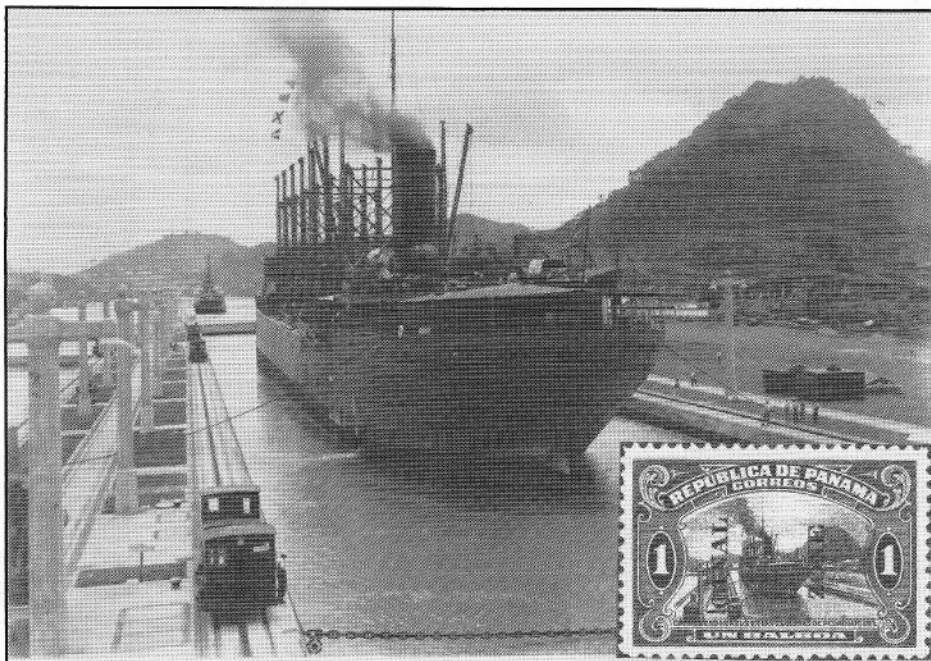
From Willis C. Hendrick

My "Relationship" with the Panama Canal dates back to 1918 recollections of family and friends returning to the States visiting my "stay at home" father. This interest was further strengthened by school projects on the Canal and a 1934 Round Trip courtesy of the U.S. Navy.

My stamp collecting started with stamps from postcards from the same family friends.

In the late 1930s my wife was looking for a birthday present and came up with a beautiful block of Panama 1Balboa to match my overprinted (CZ 59) of the same stamp. The stamp illustrates the collier *USS Nereus* in the locks after coaling at the Balboa Coal Depot about 1917.

The overprint and block have been favorites of mine for many years. So I was most pleased when a long time friend Adrien "Kibby" Bouche, a long time resident of the Zone, recently located the original negative, used for design of the stamp and provided me with a print. He has been cataloging many official photos of the Zone.

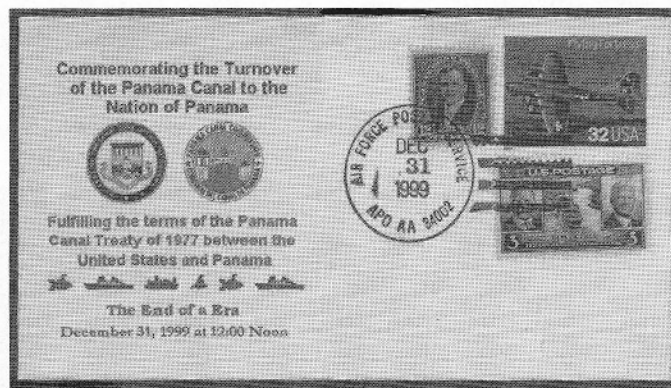


Last Day Ft. Clayton, APO AA 34004



Jeanne Stough's Award Winning Cachet

Turnover of Canal to Nation of Panama



From C & H Stamps

ARIPEX 2000 Meeting

The CZSG held a regional meeting on Saturday, February 12 in Phoenix during the ARIPEX show and exhibition.

With a large Convention Center, nearby hotels and plenty of aisle room, one might think attendees would arrive in quantity. Not so, the ARIPEX events in Tucson and Mesa, AZ have a better public participation.

Nine members and guests were at the CZSG meeting. A major topic of discussion was buying on eBay and similar electronic auction sites. The summation of that dialogue could be stated as "know thy seller."

A donation of CZPs to an Arizona philatelic organization was considered, also a possible CZSG/COPAPHIL joint meeting and show in Boxborough, MA in May of 2002.

A feeble "show 'n' tell" ended the organized program. Members either found little at the event or were holding 'em close to the vest.

A reminder: the 2001 ARIPEX show will be in Tucson. It is an APS show and hosts the large Nordia group plus the BIA (now United States Stamp Society) group plus the Scandinavian Collectors Club meeting. Early reservations are advised.

Book Review

by David L. Farnsworth

It's Panama Canal! by Patricia Maloney Markun (North Haven, Connecticut: Linnet Books, 1999) 112 pages: hardbound ISBN 0-208-02499-9, \$22.50.

This book is essentially a revision of Markun's 1979 book *The Panama Canal*, which was a revision of her 1958 book *The First Book of the Panama Canal*. See CZP, Whole Number 74, page 8 for a review of *The Panama Canal*. In a parallel fashion with the 1979 book, the opening chapter describes a canal passage of a container ship.

The book describes the history and contribution of the canal. The titles of Chapters 5 through 8: "Toward a Seamless Transition: One Team, One Mission," "A Canal in Good Condition," "What to do with a Five-Billion Dollar Gift," and "Will Panama Succeed in a Big Job?" demonstrate the book's currency. Markun does not whitewash or overblow the problems that Panama faces.

Like the earlier versions, the book is juvenile literature at the fifth through seventh or eighth grade levels. It has a balanced viewpoint and can be recommended to older readers as well. Many nice photographs can be found in this excellent book.

Other Publications:

"Marginal Markings, What do they stand for?" by Joseph M. Napp, Member CZSG, in *Possessions*, Journal of the United States Possessions Philatelic Society, Fourth Quarter 1998, Vol. 19, No. 4, Whole No. 70, pp. 99-102.

An article in this issue of the Journal addresses the series of initials found printed in the selvage of some early United States Bureau printings. It treats the 1904 Canal Zone overprints #4-8 and examines them in context with contemporaneous Philippine overprints. Some of the initials appear to be those of pressmen. The time span of Napp's work here is earlier than the siderographers and finishers initials discussed in *Canal Zone Siderography*, by William T. Moore, CZSG Handbook No. 12 distributed to our members in 1997. Moore's work picks up in 1924 from CZ #70 onward.

The United States Possessions Philatelic Society publishes *Possessions* quarterly with attention focused primarily on all of the other U.S. philatelic interests abroad. Dues are \$15 including the Journal. Contact David S. Durbin, 1608 SW 22nd Street, Blue Springs, MO 64015-5231. E-mail: DSBURGIN@IX.NETCOM.COM

Domestic Steamer-Plane Service Rates Re-Visited

By Tom Brougham

Information published in a previous issue (CZP 132) in the serialized article on Canal Zone Domestic and Local Postal Rates and Fees needs significant correction in both the narrative and the chart of rates.

Canal Zone rate cards, U.S. Postal Guides and other sources usually do not explicitly give the Canal Zone Steamer-Plane rates and sometimes are contradictory. In putting together the information from various sources, I mistakenly thought that information concerning similar service from nearby foreign countries was relevant.

However, it now appears more likely that the Steamer-Plane rates from the Canal Zone were simply the U. S. domestic rates. That is, there was no additional amount required to carry an item to the U.S. by "Steamer". Only the amount of airmail postage that would have been due if the item had been mailed in the continental U.S. was needed (Paid with Canal Zone stamps, of course). The Canal Zone was treated as an integral part of the U. S. in that the U.S. continental airmail rate included any needed surface rate too.

This was always an obvious possibility, but until October 1946 *distance* dictated true airmail rates of the Canal Zone, never seventy. However, new material has made it clearer that these rates are simpler than I recognized.

This new explanation accounts for twelve of the Steamer-Plane covers in my collection, the one reported by Dickson Preston shown in Fig. 3, and the one shown in Fig. 11. on page 25 of CZP 132. See Fig. 1. through 4. But those shown in Fig. 5 and 6 must be considered overpaid.

We may discover someday that at some point the Steamer-Plane rate did differ from the U.S. domestic rate. I ask readers to check their Steamer-Plane covers and report items to me that are inconsistent with the new listing below. [Tom Brougham, P.O. Box 1284, Berkeley, CA 94701 or tombrougham@email.msn.com]

Meanwhile, the section on Domestic Steamer-Plane Service Rates previously published should be changed as follows:

Steamer-Plane Rates

This service provided for surface carriage to the continental United States and then by domestic air mail service in the continental U.S. The rates for this service were the prevailing U.S. domestic airmail rates.

LETTER AND POSTCARDS

10¢ per 1/2 oz.	02/01/27
5¢ per 1st oz., 10¢ each add'l oz.	08/01/28
8¢ per 1st oz., 13¢ each add'l oz.	07/06/32
6¢ per oz.	07/01/34
8¢ per oz.	03/26/44

This service was abolished on 10/01/46 when full airmail service to the U.S. and all Possessions was reduced to 5¢.

The Steamer-Plane rate appears to have fallen into non-use after the U.S. entered World War II. The last rate has not been seen by this author.



Fig. 1. May 23, 1928. Non-philatelic use of UC1 prior to full air mail service from the Canal Zone. Double 10¢ per 1/2 ounce rate. No need to indicate "Steamer-Plane Service" since no other air-mail services at this time.

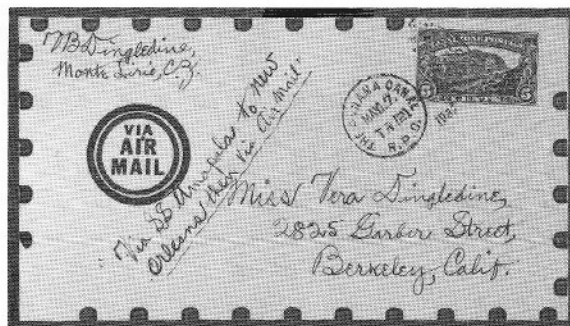


Fig. 2. May 7, 1932. Handwritten instruction indicating ship to New Orleans and then airmail. This 5¢ rate is readily available compared to other Steamer-Plane rates.



Fig. 3. April 10, 1933. Handwritten "Partial Airmail." 8¢ per ounce rate. (Cover courtesy of Dickson Preston.)

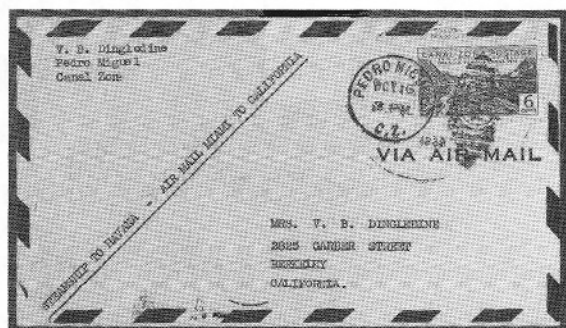


Fig. 4. October 16, 1939. Typed instruction: "Steamship to Havana - Air Mail Miami to California." A nice use of the 6¢ Anniversary Issue to pay a correct 6¢ rate.

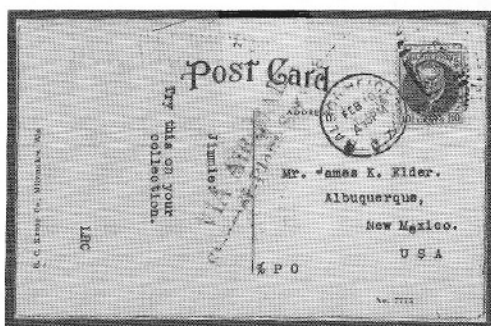


Fig. 5. February 16, 1932. On postcard. (There were no distinct postcard airmail rates at this time). Hand-stamped instruction. Overpaid. Should have been 5¢.



Fig. 6. January 15, 1935. Hand-stamped instruction. Mailed by a postmaster; probably contained a stamp order. 2¢ too much postage.

Canal Zone Graf Zeppelin South American Flight Cover.



Canal Zone #95, C1 pair, and C5a tied:
"May 22, 1930 CRISTOBAL, CZ" C.D.S.,
along with U.S. #C14 tied:
"May 29, 1930, New York" C.D.S. and
Friedrichshafen 6-6-30 receiving C.D.S.
Rare From Canal Zone!

(with Jan. 12, 2000 P.S.E. Cert.)

Ex. Fine Cover
Net: \$2,500

What else do you need in elusive C.Z.?
Satisfaction or Immediate Refund
Gladly Sent on
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CZ Boundary Marker

A bit off the beaten track but collectible!
A retiring CZ employee "collected" a few of
these *Boundary Markers*. He is selling his
"collection." They are heavy bronze, and not
badly corroded, even after 95 years of tropical
exposure. This one is 4.5 inches in di-
ameter and sawed off at 1.5 inches so makes
a somewhat heavy paper weight.

The "191" calls out its former location
near the ex-Howard Field.

The marker joins another gem, a head-
stone from the French Cemetery at Bas
Obispo in the memorabilia collection of a
former editor.



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#12

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12.Bb, 12.C, 12.D, 12.Ea, & 12.Eb

#13

Stages II & III
CZSG Nos. 13.B, 13.C, & 13.D

Sheets (up to 3 of each CZSG No.),
Blocks, & Pairs

Will consider singles,
especially of errors & varieties

Quantities (duplicates) acceptable

Unused & Used

Approvals accepted

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I am happy to examine any item
to see if I want it.

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